

**MAY 4**  
**8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am**  
*Three and Four Year Olds*  
**JOSEPH TAKEN TO EGYPT**  
(GENESIS 37; 39–46; 50)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Even when bad things happened, God had a plan for good. Jesus never sinned, but He was arrested, beaten, and killed on a cross to bring about our good—so people could be saved from sin through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Who is in control? God is in control.

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:** *Genesis 50:20 "God can make bad things good."*

**STORY POINT:** God was always with Joseph and took care of him.

## LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

### 1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite preschoolers to count groups of seven classroom items such as blocks, people figures, crayons, or vehicles with you as you come to group time.

**SAY** *Pharaoh had a strange dream that included the number seven. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh about his dream. There would be seven years of good farming and seven years without food.*

### 2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

\*9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.\*

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

*If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.*

### 3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask the following review questions:

1. What did you like about the Bible story? *(Answers will vary.)*
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? *(Answers will vary.)*
3. What were some of the hard things that happened to Joseph? *(He was sold by his brothers and was thrown into jail in Egypt for something he didn't do.)*
4. What are some of the good things that God did in Joseph's life? *(God helped Joseph interpret dreams, freed him from jail, helped him become a leader in Egypt, and used him to save all Egypt and his own family.)*
5. What did Joseph say to his brothers? *("You planned evil against me; God planned it for good.")*

#### **6. Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything.**

7. **SAY** *God was always with Joseph and took care of him. Even though bad things happened to Joseph, God planned a way to use those things for good. Even though Jesus being killed on a cross was a bad thing, God planned it to bring about great good. Because Jesus died in our place and came back to life, we can be saved from our sin!*

#### 4. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

**SAY** *In our Bible story today, we saw that God was able to take Joseph's bad situation and make something very good out of it. That's because **God is in control of everything! Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything.***

#### 5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Genesis 50:20. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage phrase. Say the key passage with dramatic emotion several times, emphasizing the words *bad* and *good*.

**SAY** *God brought good out of many bad things in Joseph's life. Even though his brothers sold him to some travelers, Potiphar's wife lied about him, and he ended up in prison, **God was always with Joseph and took care of him.** Joseph told his brothers, 'You wanted to hurt me, but God had a good plan so many people would be saved.'*

#### 6. PRAY

*Pray, thanking God that even when bad things happen, He still has a good plan.*

### ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

#### PICK YOUR FAVORITE

Using a **dry erase board**, pick a category and work with preschoolers to make a long list of options. For example, invite preschoolers to list out ice cream flavors on the board. Then, lead preschoolers to choose their favorite of all the options, and vote on the class favorite. Erase the board and choose another category, like foods, shows, or games to play.

**SAY** *The word favorite means the thing you like more than all the others. In today's story, Jacob had a favorite son out of all twelve sons: Joseph. This made Joseph happy, but it made the rest of his sons sad and angry. They sold him into slavery. Even though this bad thing happened, **God was always with Joseph and took care of him.***

#### REPEAT THE ACTION

Before the session, write one action on each **index card**. Include actions such as *hop*, *pat your head*, *clap your hands*, and *stomp your feet*. Encourage preschoolers to help you think of others. Invite a preschooler to choose a card. Encourage the group to do the action seven times. Allow everyone to have a turn choosing an action to perform.

**SAY** *You did each of the actions seven times. The king of Egypt had some strange dreams with the number seven. God made Joseph able to understand what the dreams meant. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh about the dreams. There would be seven years of good farming in the land and then seven years without food. Pharaoh liked Joseph and put him in charge of everything in Egypt. Joseph's brothers came to see him when the food stopped growing. Joseph told them that God had a good plan so that many people would be saved.*

#### COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

As children color, **SAY** *Even when bad things happened, God had a good plan. Jesus was killed on a cross, but He rose again to rescue people from sin.*

#### OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Genesis 28. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

STORYTELLING TIPS (Props are not provided, feel free to bring them from home though!)

Use paper sack puppets: Before the session, design several paper sack puppets to represent the people in today's story. Consider making two puppets to represent Joseph: one with a beautiful coat and one without. Enlist co-teachers to help switch puppets as the story unfolds.

Count it out: Pause and lead preschoolers to count out all the numbers in the story.

### JOSEPH TAKEN TO EGYPT

**Jacob** lived in the land of Canaan. He **had 12 sons, but his son Joseph was his favorite. Jacob gave Joseph a beautiful coat. All of Joseph's brothers were jealous and did not like him.**

Joseph told his brothers about some dreams he had. In these dreams, his family bowed down to him. This made his brothers dislike him even more. **One day, the brothers decided to get rid of Joseph. They sold him to some men who took him away to Egypt, where he became a servant in the house of a man named Potiphar.**

Joseph served his master well, and Potiphar placed him in charge everything he owned. **One day, Potiphar's wife lied about Joseph and said he tried to hurt her. Potiphar was angry, and he put Joseph in prison. God was always with Joseph and took care of him.**

While **Joseph** was in jail, he **met a man who had worked for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. This man told Joseph about a strange dream he had. God gave Joseph the ability to understand what the dream meant. Joseph said the man would soon be freed from jail and serve the king again. That's just what happened!**

**Then, Pharaoh had some strange dreams. The man from prison told Pharaoh about Joseph, so Pharaoh sent for Joseph. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh what the dreams meant: there would be seven years of good farming in the land. Then there would be seven years when no food would** The Gospel Project | Preschool Worship Guide | Unit 3 • Session 3 | 112

**grow. Pharaoh liked Joseph and put him in charge of everything in Egypt.**

When the food stopped growing, **Joseph's father and brothers did not have food to eat. The brothers went to Egypt to ask for grain. When they first saw Joseph, they did not recognize him. Then Joseph told his brothers who he was: their brother they had sold into slavery!**

**The brothers were afraid Joseph would be angry, but Joseph said, "You planned evil against me, but God planned it for good so that many people would be saved."**

Christ Connection: Even when bad things happened, God had a plan for good. Jesus never sinned, but He was arrested, beaten, and killed on a cross to bring about our good—so people could be saved from sin through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

### DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

**MAY 4**  
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*Two Year Olds*  
**JOSEPH TAKEN TO EGYPT**  
(GENESIS 37; 39–46; 50)

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** God's plans are good.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Who is in control? God is in control.

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:** *God can make bad things good. Genesis 50:20*

**STORY POINT:** God was always with Joseph and took care of him.

## LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

### 1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite preschoolers to count with you to seven as you come to group time.

**SAY** *Pharaoh had a strange dream that included the number seven. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh about his dream. There would be seven years of good farming and seven years without food.*

### 2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

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### 3. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Genesis 50:20. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage phrase. Yawn and stretch as you say the key passage together several times.

**SAY** *We yawned and stretched as we said the key passage like Jacob may have before he slept on the rock. Jacob took his brother's blessing and went away from home, but God was able to make the bad things good and bless people through Jacob's family. **God is in control.***

## ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

### HUNT FOR COLORS

Gather [several colors of construction paper](#). Show toddlers one of the pieces of paper and guide them to find something in the room that matches the color. Remark, "Yes, that matches the color!" Continue to play the game with the other colors of paper. Review the story as the toddlers play.

**SAY** *Joseph had a beautiful coat that his father, Jacob, gave him. Joseph's brothers were not happy. They sent Joseph away. But God took care of Joseph and his family. God's plans are good.*

**COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE** *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- Joseph's brothers hurt him, but God had a good plan.
- God took care of Joseph and his family.
- God sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us.

### **OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:**

Open the Bible to Genesis 37 and tell the following Bible story:

*Jacob had 12 sons. His favorite son was Joseph. Jacob gave Joseph a beautiful coat. Joseph's brothers were not happy. They got rid of Joseph by sending him to Egypt. Joseph became a servant for a man there. Joseph was a good servant. The man's wife lied about Joseph, so he had to go to prison. Still, God was with Joseph and took care of him. When the king of Egypt had some strange dreams, God helped Joseph know what they meant. The king gave Joseph power to help people. When Joseph's brothers needed food, they went to Egypt and saw Joseph. Joseph said, "You wanted to hurt me, but God had a good plan to save people."*

**Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.**